



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAY 15 2017

Ms. Alexandria Swoyer
The Washington Times
3600 New York Avenue, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request No. EPA-HQ-2017-006407 – Final Disposition

Dear Ms. Swoyer:

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act request to the Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General dated April 20, 2017, requesting copies of “all documents and records related to an investigation into the Anniston ‘Consent Decree’ and [a] Department of Justice attorney” identified in your request, related to a “call for an investigation...made in 2003.”

After a thorough search based on the information you provided, the Office of Inspector General has determined that we have no records that are responsive to the first portion of your request for records related to an investigation of the “Anniston ‘Consent Decree’”.

With respect to the second portion of your request for records related to an investigation of the Department of Justice attorney you named in your FOIA request, pursuant to Exemption 7(C) of the FOIA, the OIG can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records regarding an investigation of this individual. *See* 5 USC § 552(b)(7)(C). This response should not be taken as an indication that such records exist; rather it is our standard response to requesters seeking such information or records pertaining to third parties.

While we do not have records responsive to the first portion of your request, as a courtesy we have identified a previous FOIA request seeking records on a similar subject matter and for which records have already been released to the public. The records can be viewed via FOIAonline at <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov:443/foia/action/public/view/record/812d4c09>.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may appeal this decision to the Counsel to the Inspector General, Office of Counsel, Office of Inspector General, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Mail Code (2411T), Washington, D.C. 20460 or via email at oig_foia@epa.gov. The appeal must be made in writing and must be submitted no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. The appeal letter and envelope should include the FOIA tracking number listed above and be marked “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.”

Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from either the EPA FOIA Public Liaison (hq.foia@epa.gov; 202-566-1667) or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). OGIS serves as a bridge between FOIA requesters and agencies and can be reached by email at ogis@nara.gov, by phone at 1-877-684-6448, or by fax at (202) 741-5769.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, you may contact Scott Levine, OIG FOIA Officer, at (202) 566-1512 or oig_foia@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Barvenik". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping line extending from the end of the name.

Susan Barvenik
Associate Counsel